GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2518
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2003
AMMUNITION DEPOT IN BHATINDA
BHAN SINGH BHAURA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had notified on November 5, 2001 that an area of 2000 yards from the Ammunition Depot at Bhatinda, Punjab will be kept free from any buildings/structures;

(b) if so, whether this notification affects densely populated residential colonies, industrial and commercial sites, religious and educational institutions falling within this area;

(c) if so, whether there is a need to evaluate all those above mentioned establishment;

(d) if so, the Government`s reaction thereto;

(e) whether the Western Command has been empowered to reduce the distance upto 1200 yards; and

(f) if so, the reasons for not reducing to Zero yard so that a large number of people`s lives are not disturbed and Government`s expenses on compensation is saved?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : At present, it will not affect any legitimate existing construction. The issue of evaluating the compensation would come up if such a situation arises.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply to (e) above.